

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /177 W

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R 051834Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8505

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 4623

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, EC, COMECON

SUBJECT: REPORTED ANDEAN INTEREST IN CLOSER TIES WITH CEMA

REF: STATE 166532

1. EMBOFF RAISED QUESTION OF ANDEAN GROUP INTEREST IN CLOSER COMMERCIAL TIES WITH CEMA AND ITS MEMBER COUNTRIES DURING CONVERSATION WITH GUILLERMO CARTAGENA, DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN TRADE, RANKING CIVIL SERVANT IN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES, COMMERCE AND INTEGRATION. CARTAGENA SAID HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY ANDEAN GROUP INTEREST IN CLOSER TIES WITH CEMA, AND HE HAD NOT TAKEN NOTE OF THE REFERENCE IN THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' JOINT DECLARATION FOLLOWING THE LIMA MEETING AUGUST 1-3. ECUADOR'S RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPE ARE BILATERAL, HE CONTINUED, AND LIMITED BY ECUADOR'S LIBERAL FOREIGN TRADE REGIME. APART FROM A
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VERY FEW PRODUCTS IMPORTED BY THE GOE, THE EASTERN

EUROPEAN COUNTRIES MUST COMPETE FREELY FOR THE ECUEAN MARKET, AND THEY DO THIS BADLY. THEIR LOCAL COMMERCIAL AGENTS ARE GENERALLY INEXPERIENCED, UNDERFINANCED, AND UNAIDED BY THE EASTERN EUROPEAN ORGANIZATIONS THEY REPRESENT. THE RUSSIANS, HE ADDED, HAVE NOTHING ECUADOR WANTS.

2. CARTAGENA REVEALED THAT THE GOE HAS APPROVED A COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH ROMANIA FOR SIGNING DURING PRESIDENT CEAUCESCU'S VISIT DEPT. 13-15. THE DRAFT TREATY IS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL TO THOSE IN EFFECT WITH POLAND, HUNGARY, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA; THAT IS, IT WILL EXPRESS A DESIRE TO INCREASE BILATERAL TRADE BUT WILL CONTAIN NO MEASURES TO BRING THAT ABOUT. CHAPLIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: collinp0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973QUITO04623
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS CHAPLIN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730954/aaaabnhx.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 166532
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: collinp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Jan-2002 by martinjw>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by collinp0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED ANDEAN INTEREST IN CLOSER TIES WITH CEMA
TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, EC, COMECON
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005